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Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
---------- 050940
R 191500Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7767

UNCLAS BELGRADE 5431

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: OEXC YO
SUBJ: IVP: MIHAILO KOVAC

REF: BELGRADE 4780

1. PLEASE ADVISE IF PROGRAM AGENCY CAN ACCEPT KOVAC O/A SEPTEMBER 13 AS REQUESTED REFTEL.

2. BIO DATA BEING PREPARED. WILL BE FORWARDED SOONEST.

3. GRANTEE'S PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: KOVAC INTERESTED IN US PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN AND ELECTIONS. WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL WITH A CANDIDATE, PERHAPS WITH ADVANCE PARTY TO SEE PREPARATIONS MADE FOR ARRIVAL OF CANDIDATE IN GIVEN LOCALE. ALSO WISHES VISIT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES. POST SUGGESTS THAT IN ADDITION TO PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, GRANTEE MIGHT ALSO FIND CONGRESSIONAL AND/OR GUBERNATORIAL CONTESTS OF INTEREST.

4. GRANTEE WISHES LEARN HOW LABOR UNIONS PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS. SHOULD THEREFORE MEET WITH UNION OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THAT. AS NEWSPAPERMAN, GRANTEE WISHES MEET US COLLEAGUES. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED DESIRE VISIT "WASHINGTON POST". POST SUGGESTS MIGHT ALSO BE INSTRUCTIVE FOR GRANTEE TO MEET WITH REPORTERS/EDITORS OF LARGE UNION NEWSPAPERS OR MAGAZINES. VISIT TO "DAILY WORKER" OR SOCIALIST PAPER, AS WELL AS TO UNDERGROUND PRESS (" ROLLINGSTONE" OR "VILLAGE VOICE"), MIGHT GIVE VISITOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ENJOYED
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IN US.

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5. GRANTEE ALSO INTERESTED IN VISITIING SMALL FAMILY FARM, A SMALL TOWN, A UNVIVERSITY(TO SEE OPERATIONS OF NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES ON CAMPUS), A YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB, AND A FACTORY. SINCE GRANTEE VISITED BOEING FACTORY ON PREVIOUS SHORT VISIT TO US, POST SUGGESTS SOME-WHAT DIFFERENT INDUSTRIAL SITE THIS TIME, SUCH AS AUTO-MOBILE OR APPLIANCE FACTORY OR LARGE FOOD PROCESSING PLANT. GRANTEE SHOULD HAVE CHANCE SEE HOW EMPLOYEES LIVE, PERHAPS THROUGH HOME-STAY. MAY BE POSSIBLE COMBINE FACTORY VISIT, YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN COMMUNITY, AND HOME-STAY WITH WORKER IN ONE PACKAGE IN CITIES SUCH AS CLEVELAND OR DETROIT.

6. GRANTEE'S HOBBY IS MODERN MUSIC, ESPECIALLY POP AND ROCK. HE MENTIONED INTEREST IN "CHICAGO", "SANTANA", AND "TOWER OF POWER" GROUPS. ATTENDANCE AT RECORDING SESSION IN DETROIT, NASHVILLE, OR LOS ANGELES WOULD BE MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE FOR GRANTEE.

7. REASON FOR NOMINATION: POST BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT PROVIDE FIRST-HAND EXPOSURE TO US FOR YOUNG, RISING JOURNALISTS SUCH AS KOVAC IN ORDER GET MORE BALANCE IN REPORTING OMTUS#IN YUGOSLAV MEDIA.
CAB SILBERMAN

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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